



News Release

Arizona Department of Public Safety

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY SEIZES HUGE AMOUNTS OF COCAINE DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE

Several traffic stops by Highway Patrol Officers with the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS) in a month long period resulted in the seizure of 34 pounds of cocaine with an estimated street value of \$275,000.

The traffic stops occurred along Interstate 40 in the northern part of the state.

The largest haul came on June 19th when officers took in 22 pounds of cocaine during a traffic stop that occurred on Interstate 40 near Winslow.

"The amount of cocaine seized by our agency in June was nearly three times what we seized in May. This demonstrates the severity of the drug trafficking problem in this state. We at the Arizona Department of Public Safety are committed to arresting those involved in the proliferation of this dangerous drug and other illegal narcotics throughout this state," said Roger Vanderpool, Director of the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

In several cases, the drugs were found hidden and creatively concealed deep inside the searched vehicles.

As a result of the Arizona Department of Public Safety's tireless effort to dismantle and disrupt the criminal organizations that manufacture, grow, transport and sell illegal drugs, communities in Arizona are becoming safer places to live.

The mission of the Arizona Department of Public Safety, one of the most dynamic state-level law enforcement agencies in the United States, is to protect human life and property by enforcing state laws, deterring criminal activity, assuring the safety of the motoring public on Arizona's highways and providing vital scientific, technical and operational support to other criminal justice agencies. The Department, also one of Arizona's largest law enforcement agencies with some 2,200 sworn and civilian employees, consists of four divisions – Highway Patrol, Criminal Investigations, Criminal Justice Support and Agency Support. The Department is headquartered in Phoenix and has offices located in more than 80 communities within Arizona's 15 counties.